



MI-CW2910

# Michigan Crop Weather

July 19, 2010

## Warm with Scattered Precipitation

Five days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending July 18, according to the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office. Precipitation varied from 0.41 inches in the south central Lower Peninsula to 1.60 inches in the east central Lower Peninsula. Above average temperatures ranged from 1 degree above normal for the western Upper Peninsula to 5 degrees above normal in the west central Lower Peninsula. Crop progress varied across the state. “It was another good week with warm temperatures and humid air, and corn greatly benefited from the weather,” stated one producer in the west central Lower Peninsula. Another producer in the central Lower Peninsula reported that the corn was beyond excellent. While corn looked good in the central Lower Peninsula, growers in the north western Lower Peninsula would have liked to see more rain. A reporter in the region stated, “Starting to get dry, and corn is starting to roll up and show some stress.” Third cutting of alfalfa will start in some areas by the end of the week if weather permits. Outside of harvesting crops and fruits, field activities included some spraying, post emerge herbicide application, and tillage.

## Field Crops

Humid and hot weather was the biggest factor for field crops during the week. Precipitation was very spotty around the state causing soil moisture levels to be inconsistent. **Alfalfa** harvest was slowed mostly by weather. Most of the quality was good to excellent. Some were completing first cutting while majority were working on second cuttings. A great deal of **wheat** was harvested. Scattered showers were responsible for hindering further harvest. **Corn** continued to take advantage of ideal growing conditions. Progress was well ahead of normal. Reporters used words such as “exceptional” and “excellent” when describing the crop. Farmers worked on **oat** harvest when they had a chance. **Sugarbeets** continued to look outstanding. According to one reporter, “sugarbeet growers are contemplating an early start up to harvest”. Growers have been very excited about this year’s crop. **Drybeans** showed damage from drown spots in low lying areas. The remainder of the crop continued on pace for a decent year **Soybeans** made steady to slow progress toward maturity. “Late planted or replanted crops are having a hard time of it, but we will have to wait and see what the weather brings”, says one reporter.

Soil moisture for week ending 07/18/10

| Stratum | Very short | Short   | Adequate | Surplus |
|---------|------------|---------|----------|---------|
|         | Percent    | Percent | Percent  | Percent |
| Topsoil | 6          | 22      | 65       | 7       |
| Subsoil | 3          | 21      | 72       | 4       |

Crop condition for week ending 07/18/10

| Crop         | Very poor | Poor    | Fair    | Good    | Excellent |
|--------------|-----------|---------|---------|---------|-----------|
|              | Percent   | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent   |
| All Hay      | 1         | 6       | 18      | 51      | 24        |
| Barley       | 0         | 7       | 18      | 60      | 15        |
| Corn         | 1         | 5       | 14      | 49      | 31        |
| Dry beans    | 3         | 11      | 28      | 41      | 17        |
| Oats         | 0         | 5       | 19      | 54      | 22        |
| Pasture      | 0         | 7       | 21      | 53      | 19        |
| Soybeans     | 1         | 5       | 23      | 48      | 23        |
| Winter Wheat | 1         | 5       | 20      | 52      | 22        |

## Fruit

Growing degree days continued ahead of normal with the hot weather across the state. **Apples** ranged from 42 to 53 mm in the northwest, and fruit size was about 2.5 to 3 inches in the southwest and were sizing well. Green apple aphid numbers were building in the southwest. **Peaches** ranged from 1.75 to over 2 inches in the southwest and southeast areas. Split pit continued to be a problem in the southeast. European **plums** were about 29 mm in the northwest and remained at about 1 inch in length and 1.5 in width in the southeast. **Strawberries** were being renovated in the Grand Rapids area, and renovation was completed at most farms in the southeast. Growth in non-irrigated fields has been stunted in the southwest. Harvest of **sweet cherries** ended in the northwest. Leaf drop continued across the southeast as a result of cherry leaf spot infections. Harvest in the west central ended early due to high humidity and heat. **Tart cherry** harvest continued in the west central and was about half done in the northwest. Harvest has ended in the southwest, southeast, and Grand Rapids areas. **Pears** ranged from 1.75 to 2 inches in diameter in the southwest and southeast areas. Harvest of early varieties of **blueberries** began in the southeast; harvest continued in the southwest and Grand Rapids areas. **Grapes** were at berry touch in the southeast and northwest areas; fruit clusters on primary shoots were closed, and fruit was at berry touch on secondary shoots in the southwest. Summer **raspberry** harvest continued in the northwest, southwest, and southeast areas.

## Vegetables

Warm and humid days last week aided vegetable development and harvest, but heightened concern of additional diseases and pest activity. Harvest of **cabbage**, **yellow squash**, **zucchini**, for both fresh and processing, **cucumbers for pickles**, **potatoes**, **garlic**, and **snap beans** was ongoing. Cabbage and other Cole crops were under pressure from diamond-back moths. **Carrots** and **parsnips** continued to progress and looked good. **Sweet corn** harvest was underway in some areas. Growers were cautioned to be aware of European corn borer. **Onions** and **leeks** were developing and sizing well, except on wetter soils. In the Grand Rapids area, **celery** transplanting and harvest of other celery fields continued. **Tomatoes**, **peppers**, and **eggplants** looked good and harvest of some fields was underway. Specialty peppers were harvested and available in limited quantities in the Macomb County area. **Watermelons** were progressing well. **Muskmelons** were full size and netting. **Pumpkins** and **hard squash** had fruit and were sizing. **Romaine lettuce** harvest was underway in Macomb County.

Crop progress for week ending 07/18/10

| Crop                     | This week | Last week | Last year | 5-year average |
|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------|
|                          | Inches    | Inches    | Inches    | Inches         |
| Corn, height             | 67        | 60        | 46        | 56             |
|                          | Percent   | Percent   | Percent   | Percent        |
| All hay, first cutting   | 93        | 91        | 100       | 100            |
| All hay, second cutting  | 50        | 40        | 50        | 54             |
| Barley, headed           | 97        | 96        | 78        | 16             |
| Blueberries, harvested   | 32        | 18        | 41        | 24             |
| Corn, silked             | 65        | 30        | 4         | 27             |
| Corn, dough              | 4         | 0         | 0         | 0              |
| Dry beans, blooming      | 47        | 9         | 6         | 16             |
| Dry beans, setting pods  | 9         | NA        | NA        | 2              |
| Oats, turning yellow     | 83        | 52        | 40        | 59             |
| Oats, harvested          | 9         | 6         | 3         | 4              |
| Peaches, harvested       | 14        | NA        | 6         | 3              |
| Soybeans, blooming       | 61        | 40        | 25        | 49             |
| Soybeans, setting pods   | 18        | 10        | 2         | 11             |
| Strawberries, harvested  | 100       | 98        | 91        | 97             |
| Tart cherries, harvested | 88        | 46        | 16        | 43             |
| Winter wheat, harvested  | 84        | 43        | 11        | 40             |

| Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 07/18/10 <sup>1</sup> |             |         |                       |                                             |       |        |               |                |                 |               |                      |                  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|---------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------|-------|--------|---------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------|----------------------|------------------|
| Station                                                        | Temperature |         |                       | Cumulative growing degree days <sup>2</sup> |       |        | Precipitation |                |                 |               |                      |                  |
|                                                                | Maximum     | Minimum | Departure from normal | 2010                                        | 2009  | Normal | This week     | Last two weeks | Last four weeks | Since April 1 | Normal Since April 1 | Normal For month |
| Ironwood                                                       | 83          | 49      |                       | 1,181                                       | 860   |        | 0.94          | 2.59           | 5.96            | 12.79         |                      |                  |
| Marquette                                                      | 84          | 48      |                       | 1,144                                       | 749   |        | 0.94          | 2.59           | 5.96            | 12.79         |                      |                  |
| Stephenson                                                     | 87          | 51      |                       | 1,355                                       | 1,002 |        | 0.84          | 2.67           | 6.82            | 14.26         |                      |                  |
| <b>Western UP</b>                                              | 87          | 45      | 1                     | 1,188                                       | 814   | 962    | 0.96          | 2.85           | 5.99            | 12.98         | 11.15                | 3.42             |
| Cornell                                                        | 85          | 51      |                       | 1,268                                       | 907   |        | 0.95          | 3.05           | 7.03            | 13.76         |                      |                  |
| Sault St Marie                                                 | 84          | 55      |                       | 1,178                                       | 734   |        | 0.48          | 0.77           | 2.08            | 8.69          |                      |                  |
| <b>Eastern UP</b>                                              | 86          | 48      | 3                     | 1,141                                       | 752   | 794    | 0.65          | 2.90           | 5.56            | 12.64         | 10.29                | 3.19             |
| Beulah                                                         | 88          | 57      |                       | 1,397                                       | 1,039 |        | 1.03          | 1.55           | 3.04            | 11.93         |                      |                  |
| Lake City                                                      | 86          | 51      |                       | 1,365                                       | 993   |        | 1.95          | 2.87           | 4.04            | 14.64         |                      |                  |
| Old Mission                                                    | 88          | 52      |                       | 1,344                                       | 941   |        | 0.12          | 0.29           | 1.52            | 10.90         |                      |                  |
| Pellston                                                       | 87          | 48      |                       | 1,308                                       | 892   |        | 0.17          | 0.78           | 4.52            | 12.22         |                      |                  |
| <b>Northwest</b>                                               | 88          | 48      | 3                     | 1,316                                       | 933   | 1,102  | 0.63          | 1.06           | 2.66            | 11.43         | 10.06                | 2.99             |
| Alpena                                                         | 87          | 54      |                       | 1,289                                       | 945   |        | 0.25          | 1.39           | 2.42            | 11.63         |                      |                  |
| Houghton Lake                                                  | 85          | 52      |                       | 1,432                                       | 985   |        | 0.29          | 2.03           | 2.67            | 11.15         |                      |                  |
| Rogers City                                                    | 86          | 57      |                       | 1,202                                       | 946   |        | 0.09          | 0.89           | 3.96            | 13.38         |                      |                  |
| <b>Northeast</b>                                               | 87          | 52      | 2                     | 1,339                                       | 958   | 1,060  | 0.78          | 2.32           | 3.88            | 12.90         | 9.85                 | 3.18             |
| Fremont                                                        | 86          | 60      |                       | 1,541                                       | 1,143 |        | 0.90          | 1.32           | 2.71            | 8.71          |                      |                  |
| Hart                                                           | 86          | 62      |                       | 1,457                                       | 1,075 |        | 1.30          | 2.22           | 3.39            | 11.57         |                      |                  |
| Muskegon                                                       | 86          | 66      |                       | 1,637                                       | 1,225 |        | 1.09          | 1.50           | 4.17            | 10.98         |                      |                  |
| <b>West Central</b>                                            | 87          | 56      | 5                     | 1,519                                       | 1,133 | 1,219  | 1.14          | 1.65           | 3.37            | 10.68         | 10.26                | 2.54             |
| Alma                                                           | 87          | 63      |                       | 1,589                                       | 1,154 |        | 0.76          | 1.93           | 4.93            | 16.13         |                      |                  |
| Big Rapids                                                     | 87          | 58      |                       | 1,488                                       | 1,101 |        | 0.49          | 1.10           | 3.14            | 14.01         |                      |                  |
| <b>Central</b>                                                 | 87          | 58      | 4                     | 1,536                                       | 1,126 | 1,280  | 0.48          | 1.27           | 3.12            | 12.58         | 10.97                | 2.97             |
| Bad Axe                                                        | 89          | 61      |                       | 1,485                                       | 1,037 |        | 2.70          | 2.81           | 5.61            | 15.42         |                      |                  |
| Pigeon                                                         | 91          | 56      |                       | 1,470                                       | 1,035 |        | 2.34          | 2.38           | 4.34            | 11.96         |                      |                  |
| Saginaw                                                        | 89          | 63      |                       | 1,671                                       | 1,172 |        | 0.29          | 1.11           | 3.10            | 11.17         |                      |                  |
| Standish                                                       | 88          | 57      |                       | 1,433                                       | 1,053 |        | 2.26          | 2.61           | 4.68            | 15.62         |                      |                  |
| <b>East Central</b>                                            | 91          | 56      | 3                     | 1,483                                       | 1,074 | 1,264  | 1.60          | 1.95           | 3.96            | 13.30         | 9.99                 | 2.92             |
| Fennville                                                      | 88          | 63      |                       | 1,566                                       | 1,209 |        | 1.11          | 2.50           | 5.25            | 18.23         |                      |                  |
| Grand Rapids                                                   | 89          | 66      |                       | 1,744                                       | 1,339 |        | 0.43          | 1.96           | 3.59            | 18.13         |                      |                  |
| Holland                                                        | 89          | 65      |                       | 1,742                                       | 1,414 |        | 2.34          | 5.50           | 7.73            | 22.83         |                      |                  |
| South Bend, IN                                                 | 93          | 64      |                       | 1,768                                       | 1,474 |        | 0.35          | 0.86           | 3.32            | 15.58         |                      |                  |
| Watervliet                                                     | 89          | 65      |                       | 1,680                                       | 1,314 |        | 0.63          | 1.23           | 3.09            | 14.46         |                      |                  |
| <b>Southwest</b>                                               | 93          | 59      | 4                     | 1,680                                       | 1,331 | 1,378  | 0.81          | 1.73           | 3.98            | 16.27         | 11.74                | 3.09             |
| Belding                                                        | 86          | 61      |                       | 1,553                                       | 1,149 |        | 0.28          | 1.08           | 2.42            | 13.90         |                      |                  |
| Coldwater                                                      | 92          | 61      |                       | 1,733                                       | 1,381 |        | 0.02          | 0.47           | 1.54            | 13.32         |                      |                  |
| Lansing                                                        | 92          | 62      |                       | 1,696                                       | 1,242 |        | 0.05          | 0.51           | 2.08            | 12.02         |                      |                  |
| <b>South Central</b>                                           | 94          | 60      | 3                     | 1,632                                       | 1,250 | 1,371  | 0.41          | 1.58           | 3.04            | 14.58         | 11.49                | 3.22             |
| Detroit                                                        | 92          | 65      |                       | 1,822                                       | 1,425 |        | 1.17          | 1.73           | 3.46            | 14.39         |                      |                  |
| Flint                                                          | 91          | 60      |                       | 1,687                                       | 1,224 |        | 0.78          | 2.20           | 3.50            | 12.84         |                      |                  |
| Romeo                                                          | 92          | 61      |                       | 1,601                                       | 1,214 |        | 1.23          | 1.73           | 2.64            | 12.24         |                      |                  |
| Tipton                                                         | 91          | 62      |                       | 1,664                                       | 1,310 |        | 0.08          | 0.60           | 2.36            | 15.69         |                      |                  |
| Toledo, OH                                                     | 94          | 64      |                       | 1,844                                       | 1,462 |        | 0.18          | 0.72           | 1.51            | 14.41         |                      |                  |
| <b>Southeast</b>                                               | 96          | 58      | 4                     | 1,691                                       | 1,338 | 1,342  | 0.89          | 1.74           | 3.11            | 14.95         | 11.25                | 3.11             |

<sup>1</sup> Issued by the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Commerce, Michigan State University Cooperative Extension Service, Agricultural Meteorologist, Department of Geography, and Crop Advisory Team ALERTS.

<sup>2</sup> Growing degree days (GDD) is the sum of daily mean temperatures minus 50 per day, 86 maximum and 50 minimum. The GDD is accumulative from April 1.